

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please replace the pending claims with the following claim listing:

1-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Original) A disposable pooling bag assembly comprising:

a flexible pooling bag bounding a compartment, the pooling bag having an inlet port and an outlet port communicating with the compartment;

a filter in fluid communication with the inlet port of the pooling bag; and

a circulation line projecting outside of the compartment of the pooling bag and having opposing ends in fluid communication with the compartment of the pooling bag, wherein the flexible pooling bag, the filter and the circulation line are concurrently sterilized as a preassembled, closed system.

41. (Original) The disposable pooling bag assembly as recited in claim 40, wherein the compartment of the pooling bag has a volume of at least 500 liters.

42. (Original) The disposable pooling bag assembly as recited in claim 40, wherein the filter has a filter membrane with a porosity in a range from about 0.1 μm to about 10 μm .

43. (Original) The disposable pooling bag assembly as recited in claim 40, further comprising a dip tube at least partially disposed within the compartment of the pooling bag, the dip tube being in fluid communication with the circulation line.

44. (Original) The disposable pooling bag assembly as recited in claim 40, further comprising a peristaltic pump coupled with the circulation line outside of the compartment of the pooling bag.

45. (Original) The disposable pooling bag assembly as recited in claim 40, further comprising an elongated fluid line in fluid communication with the outlet port on the pooling bag, the fluid line being concurrently sterilized with the pooling bag.

46. (Original) A method for pooling a fluid solution, the method comprising:

delivering a fluid through at least one filter and into a compartment of a sterile, flexible pooling bag so that the fluid is pooled within the pooling bag, portions of the fluid having a different composition so that the fluid is not homogeneous as the fluid first enters the compartment of the pooling bag;

mixing the pooled fluid within the compartment of the pooling bag so that the pooled fluid becomes homogeneous; and

dispensing the homogeneous, pooled fluid from the compartment of the pooling bag.

47. (Original) The method as recited in claim 46, wherein the step of delivering the fluid through at least one filter comprises delivering the fluid through a filter train comprised of a plurality of interconnected filters.

48. (Original) The method as recited in claim 46, wherein the step of delivering the fluid through at least one filter comprises delivering the fluid through a filter having a filter membrane with a porosity in a range from about 0.1 μm to about 10 μm .

49. (Original) The method as recited in claim 46, further comprising:

depositing a first volume of the fluid into a fill container, the fill container being fluid coupled with the pooling bag through the at least one filter, the fill container bounding a compartment having a volume smaller than the volume of the chamber of the pooling bag and smaller than the volume of the fluid pooled within the pooling bag; and

progressively adding more of the fluid into the fill container as the fluid is delivered from the fill container to the pooling bag.

50. (Original) The method as recited in claim 49, further comprising adding one or more additives into the fluid within the fill container after a portion of fluid has already been delivered into the pooling bag.

51. (Original) The method as recited in claim 46, wherein the method of mixing the pooled fluid comprises using a peristaltic pump to pump the fluid through a circulation line projecting from the pooling bag, the circulation line having opposing ends in fluid communication with the compartment of the pooling bag.